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National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Leaksville Commercial Historic District

and or common

2. Location

street & number 622-656 Washington Street and 634 Monroe Street n/a not for publication

city, town Eden N/A vicinity of

state North Carolina 27288 code 037 county Rockingham code 157

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rockingham County Courthouse

street & number North Carolina Highway 65

city, town. Wentworth state North Carolina 27375

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Claudia Roberts Brown, "Eden--A Tale of Three Cities" inventory report for Eden Historic
title Properties Commission has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no
(published 1986 as A Tale of Three Cities, Eden's Heritage: A Pictorial Survey by the
date 1985 Eden Historic Properties Commission) ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History

city, town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

7. Description

Condition☒ excellent☒ good☒ fair☐ deteriorated☐ ruins☐ unexposed**Check one**☐ unaltered☒ altered**Check one**☒ original site☐ moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Leaksville Commercial Historic District is located in the southwestern portion of Eden, a town which lies in north central Rockingham County in the North Carolina piedmont region, about five miles south of the Virginia border. Eden is the county's largest community, population approximately 15,600. The town was created in 1967 when the tri-city area of Leaksville, Spray and Draper were consolidated as a governmental unit. The Leaksville Commercial Historic District is located in what was originally the southeastern edge of Leaksville (established in 1795), the area's market center and the oldest of the three adjoining towns. The small, one-and-one-half block long district contains fifteen structures which line the east and west sides of a portion of the 600 block of Washington Street, and one building which fronts on the north side of Monroe Street near its intersection with Washington Street. The structures in the district represent the largest and most intact concentration of architecturally significant late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial structures remaining in Eden. The district is commercial in character with the exception of a two-story frame hip-roofed Greek Revival style c. 1840 house (#8) still in residential use, and a 1939 WPA-built Colonial Revival style U.S. Post Office (#11). Included in the district are the following resources: twelve contributing structures and four non-contributing structures. In scale the buildings range from one to four stories with the majority, two stories. In extent they range from individual buildings with a single storefront to the four-story Realty Building (#10) which originally housed many commercial tenants. With the exception of the frame residence and a tin-clad attached storage building (#4a) all of the buildings are constructed of brick, often painted either white or with decorative multi-color paint schemes.

The predominant historic fabric of the district dates from c. 1885 to 1939, with the majority of the buildings dating from the last decade of the nineteenth and the first decade of the twentieth centuries. Prominent exceptions include the c. 1840 house (#8), the Realty Building (#10) constructed in 1924-1925, and three buildings built during the 1930s (#s 11, 12 and 15). A variety of architectural styles are represented in the district's commercial structures. These include Neo-Classical Revival, Art Moderne and Colonial Revival, with the majority late nineteenth and early twentieth century vernacular brick commercial buildings, some with elaborate Queen-Anne style corbelled brickwork. Most of the structures have altered first story storefronts and relatively intact upper story elevations. The four non-contributing buildings (#s 4, 5, 12, 14) have all been radically altered by the application of false metal facades. One of the most dramatic and positive changes in the streetscape occurred in 1985-1986 when the replacement facade was removed from the T. Lee Millner Building at 640 Washington Street (#7). The handsome round-arch windows and elaborate brickwork ornamenting the second story were revealed intact. Also about the same time, the storefront of the Roberts Cafe (#9) was restored and the building received a Victorian style dark green and red paint scheme.

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The neighboring Leaksville Mercantile Building, Carter-Moir Hardware/Smith-Lane Store, and the Fagg-King Building (#s 1, 2, 3 respectively) are particularly notable for their fine decorative brickwork concentrated near the eaves of the flat-roofed parapets. The brickwork includes corbelled pendants, dentilled lintels, mousetoothing and recessed diamond-shaped panels. The Fagg-King Building is also significant because it retains the original cast iron pilasters which enframe the store front. The most prominent structure in the district is the 1924 Neo-Classical Revival style building known both as the Realty Building and the John B. Ray Building (#10). The upper elevations of the four-story brick building, Leaksville's "skyscraper," remain intact and feature full-height brick pilasters and a rich application of limestone detailing. The stone ornament includes a heavy molded string course, panels under the third and fourth story windows and capitals atop the pilasters, a particularly fine stone entablature with smooth frieze, and a pronounced modillioned cornice.

Another classically inspired building is the U.S. Post Office (#11) constructed in 1939 by the Federal Works Administration in the characteristic Colonial Revival style. The main block is a compact one-story unit set on a full basement. The hipped roof is accented by a cupola. Limestone accents the red brick elevations, used for a string course at the cornice and as lintels for the large double-hung windows. The handsome main entrance is composed of a neo-classical surround with Doric pilasters.

Two of the district's most striking buildings are Mitchell's Drug Store (#13) and the DeHart Building (#15) constructed in 1936 and 1938 respectively in the Art Moderne style. They display the characteristic stylistic elements of cleanly incised windows and crisp linear ornament integrated into the smooth white wall surfaces. Mitchell's Drug Store exhibits neo-classical influence in the wide fluted bands between the second story windows and on the pilasters which define the edges of the main elevation. The DeHart Building reflects the influence of the Art Deco style in its decorative bands of sawtoothing above the second story windows and at the top of the thick band of fluting above the storefront.

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INVENTORY LIST

The following inventory list includes all properties located within the Leaksville Commercial Historic District, keyed to the inventory map.

- Dating Whenever possible specific sources for dates and information on individual buildings are indicated in parentheses at the end of the entries. Some sources are noted by code. The key to the coded source is as follows:
- SM Sanborn Insurance Maps for Leaksville (Rockingham County-Leaksville-Spray series) 1908, 1915, 1921, 1930. Complete series located in the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Date cited indicates the year the building first appeared on Sanborn maps.
- HPC Historic Properties Commission, Eden, North Carolina. Between 1981 and 1984 members of the Eden Preservation Society and the Eden Historic Properties Commission conducted an architectural and historical inventory of the City of Eden, including the Leaksville Commercial Historic District. They photographed the buildings; interviewed the properties' current owners and descendants of earlier or original owners; examined published information found in various local newspapers, journals, and county history books (see Bibliographical References) and documentary photographs both privately and publicly owned; and, under the direction of prominent local historian Marjorie Walker, conducted extensive deed research on the various properties. The HPC's inventory files are located at the Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N.C.
- CRB Claudia Roberts Brown, preservation consultant to the Eden Historic Properties Commission. In 1984 Ms. Brown completed the inventory begun by the HPC, did additional historic research, and wrote a lengthy inventory report, "Eden--A Tale of Three Cities," which included an architectural and historical essay and individual building entries. Some of the entries in the following Inventory List are excerpted or adapted from her report which was published by the HPC in 1986. Ms. Brown's working files are also on deposit at the Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh. Some additional files, primarily on non-contributing buildings, were compiled in 1986 by Patricia Dickinson, preservation consultant. These files are also on deposit in Raleigh.

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DP Documentary photograph (either original or photocopied) located in the various files cited above. Date given, if known; many are undated.

Assessment: All properties are coded by letter as to their relative significance within the district, and these assessments are, in turn, coded on the inventory map. The following is an assessment key:

C - Contributing Those properties which contribute to the historical architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant.

NC - Non-contributing Those properties which do not contribute to the historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant. Generally these properties do not meet the 50 year age criterion or they have been radically and/or unsympathetically altered.

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1. Leaksville Mercantile Building
C 622 Washington Street
 c. 1890

This three-story structure is one of only three nineteenth-century brick commercial buildings remaining in the central business district of the Leaksville section of Eden. Little has been determined about the history of the c. 1890 building prior to the first years of this century when it was acquired by J. B. Fagg shortly after he purchased the Leaksville Mercantile Company from its founder, D. F. King. When Fagg bought King's general store, he moved the business to this building from its previous location at 607 Washington Street. In spite of alterations to the storefront and second-story windows (now metal trimmed casement types), the original design of the building remains readily apparent in the top level where a simple continuous brick lintel delineates the round arches of the three two-over-two double-hung sash windows. At the second story, the windows originally were taller and segmental arched, as indicated by the single course of bricks that acted as another continuous lintel. In between the second and third stories are two iron stars which are the ends of tie rods used in the initial construction to help stabilize the building. In 1984, the main facade was refurbished with a two-tone paint scheme that highlights the decorative brickwork. John Fagg took over the business when his brother, J. B., became postmaster in 1928. Various businesses have used the building over the years; it is presently the site of a shoe repair shop. (DP; CRB interview with Henry Fagg, 1984)

2. Carter-Moir Hardware and Smith-Lane Store
C 624 Washington Street
 c. 1880

This heavily ornamented two-story building is the oldest brick commercial structure in the Leaksville area of Eden. Although the building has lost its cast iron fluted pilasters and bracketed cornice at the store front, the second story and parapet remain intact, displaying a rich variety of patterned brickwork. At the second story, pilasters divide five bays, each containing a segmental arched window with a dentilled lintel marked by a corbelled pendant at each end. The motif of the corbelled pendant reappears in a row between the pilasters at the top of each second-story bay and in a continuous band near the top of the flat parapet. Between the two rows of pendants there is a ribbon of mousetoothing and a band of decorative brick recessed diamond-shaped panels. Like its neighbor, the Leaksville Mercantile Building (#1), this structure was refurbished in 1984 with an attractive multi-colored paint scheme that enhances its striking brickwork.

As originally constructed in the 1880s, the building, physically a single structure, was partitioned down the middle of the interior and treated legally as if it were two buildings. The north side was owned first by Charles Hamlin, who in turn sold it to R. P. Ray; the earliest known occupant of this side was the Carter-Moir Hardware Store, which was located here for several decades. During the late 1880s an

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auditorium was located on the second story; it served as a general town hall used for shows, political, social and religious meetings, high school graduations and entertainments. The south side of the building originally was owned by James R. Stephens and brothers C. B. and T. R. Pratt. The presence of an old vault on this side supports the tradition that this was the first location of the Bank of Leaksville, chartered in 1889. The first merchant known to have occupied the south side was Daniel E. Field, who operated a general store here until his retirement in 1913. Around 1915, C. P. Smith opened a store which soon became associated with Clarence Saunders Self-Service Stores, an early chain of self-service groceries. As other retail groceries became popular, Smith and his brother Dewey expanded their business with radios, televisions, and large appliances and eventually took over the north portion of the building. Around 1950 Rockford Lane became a partner in the store; the entire building is now used for appliance sales. It retains the name Smith-Lane Appliances despite the older partner's retirement and subsequent sale of the firm to Lane. (DP, c. 1903; HPC deed research; CRB historical research; SM, 1908)

3. Fagg-King Building
C 628-32 Washington Street
c. 1910

This two-story brick building, like its neighbors (#s 1 and 2), displays elaborate brickwork at the cornice and is especially notable as the only building in the district to retain its original cast iron work enframing the store fronts. Slender cast iron fluted pilasters define the store fronts and staircase bay and heavier pilasters at each end of the building rise to brackets at the ends of a flat brick entablature that runs unbroken across the entire building. The decorative brickwork is concentrated at the cornice where rectangular panels between pilasters defining the units are flanked by simple corbelling at the top and tall corbelled pendants at the bottom. The second-story windows are simple but handsome, containing one-over-one double-hung sashes with stone sills and splayed lintels.

The property is well known locally as the former site of the two-story frame Ivie Brothers Building that dated from the 1880s. In 1910, brothers James W. and Robert H. Ivie sold the property to merchant J. B. Fagg and contractor J. M. Hopper, who moved the frame building to Bridge Street. The present brick building was constructed shortly thereafter, probably by Hopper who owned a brickyard on the west bank of the Dan River.

Although stylistically a single structure, the building was constructed as three connected units: each was treated legally as a single building under separate ownership. The unit at the west end, 628, originally was owned by merchant J. B. Fagg and has been used as a general store, grocery, five-and-dime store, men's furnishings store, and offices; today it houses a dress shop. The middle unit started out as a clothing store operated by Saunders King, who may have owned that portion of the building. After a few years, King's business was supplanted by John Carter's hardware

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store; around 1920 Carter was joined by Ben Jones, under whose name the hardware business continues today. The early history of the east unit remains undetermined. (SM, 1915; CRB interview with Henry Fagg, 1984; DP, 1914; Leaksville Daily News, December 12, 1949)

4. Commercial Building and Warehouse
NC 634-636 Washington Street
4a. c.1900; altered c. 1960
C

This two-story brick building (#4) has much altered first story store fronts and a second story completely hidden from view by blue and white striped aluminum sheathing. The condition of the original facade is unknown, but may still exist in a fairly intact state. For many years this building housed a wholesale grocery store. Today the building houses a hardware store and an optometrist's office.

By 1915 an enclosed passageway connected this building with a one-story "iron clad" storage building (#4a, contributing) located at the rear of the deep lot. (This storage building appears as a detached building on the 1908 map.) The 1915 Sanborn Map indicates the building was used for storage and to house a "bottling works." The 1921 and 1930 maps record that it was in use as a "grocery warehouse." Today the small rectangular building, still clad with sheets of corrugated tin, is used for storage by the hardware store. (SM, 1908, 1915, 1921, 1930; DP, c. 1914; CRB interview with Jimmy Davidson, 1984)

5. (former) B. F. Ivie Store
NC 638 Washington Street
c. 1905; altered c. 1940

Benjamin Franklin Ivie moved to Leaksville from his native Virginia in 1881 with his bride, the former Sallie Elizabeth Elliot. He had a plug tobacco factory for some time but his primary business was his mercantile company. About 1905 he purchased this lot, built a general store and operated it until his death in the 1940s. This building and the one next door (#6) housed the Belk-Cline Department store for many years. The second story main elevation of this two-story brick building was obscured with a replacement metal facade by 1944 according to a documentary photo. The condition of the original facade is unknown, but may be relatively intact (see #6). (SM, 1908; CRB; DP, 1914 and 1944)

6. T. Lee Millner Building
C 640 Washington Street
c. 1900; remodeled c. 1925; restored/renovated 1985-1986

The handsome main elevation of this two-story brick commercial building was hidden from view for many years by a plain metal replacement facade like the neighboring building (#5). In 1985 the stucco was removed revealing an intact second story and parapet. Brick pilasters divide the second story into three bays; a band of

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round-arched windows with corbelled lintels retain their two-over-two sash and round-arch transoms. Bands of corbelled pendants underline the flat parapet transoms along the two end bays and a decorative rectangular corbelled panel marks the center bay. The first story has been renovated with large bay windows which flank a center entrance; various small shops and offices are located off the wide center interior hallway. A lively two-color paint scheme further enhances the notable exterior restoration/renovation.

This building is located on the site of the former Kate Hampton Millinery Shop. The young Miss Hampton moved from Cascade to Leaksville in the late 1880s and by 1892 had an established millinery business. She married T. Lee Millner, a widower with a son and daughter. She and her husband formed T. Lee Millner & Company, a successful business which expanded to offer a variety of dry goods. In the late 1920s their store was either torn down or rebuilt (or extensively renovated) to its present appearance. According to local historians, the new building housed the dry goods store as well as a hotel. After Mrs. Millner's death, her heirs and those of B. F. Ivie collaborated to lease the building to Belk-Cline, a large department store which occupied this building and the one next door (#5). (HPC; SM, 1908)

7. (former) Bank of Leaksville
C 646 Washington Street
1901

This two-story brick structure was the third and long-time location of the Bank of Leaksville. When the bank was chartered in 1889, it is believed to have been located at 624 Washington Street (#2). From there it moved to a two-story brick building at 615 Washington Street (radically altered) and early in this century moved into this brick structure, Leaksville's first "proper" bank building, erected in 1901 by R. P. Ray.

The bank first expanded in 1905 when it opened the Bank of Spray as a branch. In 1922, the Bank of Leaksville merged with Boulevard Bank and Trust Company and was reorganized as Leaksville Bank and Trust Company, which absorbed the Imperial Trust and Savings Company in 1931. Leaksville Bank and Trust remained in this building until the 1950s when it moved to a post-World War II building in the 700 block of Washington Street and later merged with North Carolina National Bank. Since then, the building has housed a cafe and a variety of specialty shops. Except for alterations to the first-story fenestration (brick fill in the round arches above the door and windows and replacement plate glass in the two windows), the building remains intact on the exterior. At the cornice there is a band of recessed squares above a row of small corbelled pendants marking the top of a slightly recessed rectangular panel running the full width of the facade. A similar panel, minus the ornamental brickwork, appears below the segmental arched second-story windows. (CRB; HPC; The Tarheel Banker, 1941; SM, 1908)

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8. Bullard-Ray House (NR)
C 650 Washington Street
c. 1840; renovated 1908-1915

The original section of this unpretentious Greek Revival style hip-roofed two-story frame house was built by John Hall Bullard (1808-1870) soon after he moved from Massachusetts to Rockingham County in the late 1830s to operate John Motley Morehead's Leaksville Cotton Mill. Bullard helped develop the mill into one of the most successful textile mills in the state. Bullard later resigned from the mill and became one of Leaksville's most successful merchants. After Bullard's death in 1870, the house was owned by his son-in-law and business partner, James B. Ray. James Ray and his wife Annie had five children. Their son, John Bullard Ray (1875-1958), was Leaksville's most prominent physician for over half a century. He was a mayor of Leaksville, a member of the local school board and draft board, president of Leaksville's Home Savings and Loan Association, vice-president of the Leaksville Bank and Trust, and company doctor for the Marshall Field and Company Cotton Mills. In 1905 he married Mary Eliza (Chattie) Ivie. Between 1908 and 1915, John and Chattie Ray greatly enlarged the house and renovated it in the fashionable Colonial Revival style. During the remodeling the house received two substantial rear additions, a broad wraparound porch carried by fluted Doric columns, and notable classical details in the principal first floor rooms. The house continues in family ownership to the present.

The Bullard-Ray House is one of Rockingham County's most significant houses, with roots in the area's industrial, commercial and medical life. It is believed to be the only remaining domestic structure related to the Leaksville Cotton Mill. It is also the only surviving residence in the Leaksville Commercial Historic District. (This entry is excerpted and adapted from the National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Bullard-Ray House, April 1982).

9. Roberts Cafe
C 656 Washington Street
c. 1885

Due to the retention of the bracketed frame cornice above its store front, the two-story brick building popularly known as Roberts Cafe is one of the most distinctive of the Leaksville's early commercial structures. Built around 1885 when L. J. Martin opened a business here, the building also features a band of corbelled brick pendants across the cornice at the top of the facade and two segmental arched windows, each in large slightly recessed window planes, at the second story. The next known occupants of the building after Martin were Dan and Roy Warriner who operated a Coca-Cola distributorship here as early as 1909. The 1915 Sanborn Map indicates the building housed a garage and repair shop for a short time. For many years beginning around 1919, Spencer Roberts and his family operated a cafe on the first floor and resided on the second. When the Robertses retired around 1950, Jimmy and George Hondros continued to operate the business as the G. J. Grill for another three decades. The main elevation was restored in 1984-85 and given a decorative multi-colored paint scheme. The building is currently vacant. (HPC; CRB; SM, 1908; DP, 1909)

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10. The Realty Building/John B. Ray Building
C 625 Washington Street
1924-1925

The most prominent structure in the business district of Eden's Leaksville section is the Neoclassical Revival style building known both as the Realty Building and the John B. Ray Building, as well as the Central Hotel. (The site formerly was occupied by a frame structure built in 1880 as Leaksville's first tobacco warehouse; after 1910 when the warehouse was moved to the present site of the U. S. Post Office, the lot contained grocer C. P. Smith's vegetable garden. A small circus wagon from which A. L. Elliott sold hot dogs and taffy also was parked here until the property was bought for the new building.) When it was erected in 1924 to 1925, the four-story building of tile and brick construction was Rockingham County's tallest structure and the only one with an elevator. Three firms organized and managed by Jones W. Norman, Sr. were involved in the project and one, Leaksville-Spray Insurance and Realty Company, lent the "skyscraper" its original name, the Realty Building.

Despite some unsympathetic changes to the Washington Street store fronts, the upper elevations of the building remain unaltered. Brick pilasters running through the upper stories and a rich application of limestone detailing characterize the handsome Neoclassical Revival style design. The stone ornament includes a heavy molded string course above the store fronts on Washington and Monroe streets, small rectangular panels beneath the third- and fourth-story windows, and capitals at the pilasters. The composition is highlighted by the stone entablature with a smooth frieze bearing simple geometric shapes and sheltered by a pronounced modillioned cornice.

In 1937, physician John B. Ray (see #8) purchased the building, which contained shops on the first floor, offices on the second and third stories, and the Central Hotel on the top level. Early tenants on the first floor included B. Foreman's Department Store, followed by Allen's Department Store for forty years in one unit, and Huwill's dime store, Phil Marks' ready-to-wear, and Roses' five-and-dime store in succession in the other. Among the numerous tenants of the offices were Rockingham County District Attorney Allan D. Ivie, Jr., and other attorneys, insurance companies operated by Roy J. Moore and E. P. Rothrock, and several doctors and dentists. Dr. Ray sold the building in 1946 to Dr. Sam E. Pace. After several subsequent transactions, the building came into the possession of Billy Hopper who converted it to apartments. After suffering several years of decline, the apartments were closed and the building today stands vacant except for one first-floor shop. (SM, 1930; HPC; CRB; DP, 1924; Eden News, March 18, 1969 and April 17, 1980)

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11. United States Post Office
C 634 Monroe Street
1939-1940

Under the auspices of the Federal Works Administration, the E. P. Dale Co. of Morganton constructed this Colonial Revival style building in 1939 to 1940 according to a design by FWA architect Louis A. Simon. The property (formerly the site of the frame tobacco warehouse adapted as the King Furniture Company building) is the last of several locations that the Leaksville post office has occupied in its approximately 170-year history. (Although the post office's early sites are not certain, its previous twentieth-century locations in frame (destroyed) and brick buildings on Washington Street are well documented.) The front block of the post office is a compact unit consisting of a single story on a full basement. The hipped roof covered with raised seam tin and accented by a cupola, surmounts handsome red brick elevations laid in five-to-one common bond with large double-hung sash windows and a cornice string course and coping of limestone. Prominent stone lintels appear at each window and the main entrance features a neoclassical surround with Doric pilasters. On the interior, architectural detail is concentrated in the customer lobby which has a terrazzo floor and ceramic block wainscoting. Above the door to the postmaster's office there is a notable relief sculpture entitled "American Oriental Rug Weaving" executed in 1940 by Ruth Nickers Grescen under the fine arts programs of the Works Progress Administration. Sizable additions to the rear and north elevations built in the 1960s are in keeping with the original design. (CRB; Leaksville News, February 8, 1967; "Historical Significance Report" prepared by Hugh B. Hicks, 1982; HPC) The subject of the sculpture was chosen because of the Karastan rug factory begun in Leaksville ca. 1920.

12. Commercial Building
NC 639 Washington Street
c. 1935?

Sanborn Maps indicate that this lot at the corner of Washington and Monroe was vacant until at least 1930. The present small, one-story brick veneer building has been considerably altered by the application of a vertical ribbed aluminum panel which extends above the reworked store fronts.

13. Mitchell's Drug Store
C 641 Washington Street
1936

This two-story, three-bay building with a white stuccoed main facade is one of two good examples of the Art Moderne style (also see #15) in the business district. It displays the characteristic stylistic elements of clearly incised windows and crisp, linear ornament integrated in the smooth wall surfaces. It features neo-classical fluting in wide vertical bands between the second-story windows and on taller pilasters at each end of the facade. The second story remains virtually intact while the first story store fronts have been reworked.

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The earliest known business located on this lot was a lumber yard and store operated about 1875 by Alexander Smith and Gustavus A. Walker. Henry Moir bought this lot around 1898 and had a furniture store there. Later this business was owned by J. E. Harris, Mead Wilson, and Pace-Stone. Harris added undertaking to the business. During the early 1930s the Pace-Stone Furniture Company was the last business located here in the old frame building. J. T. and E. O. Chandler tore down the old commercial building and had the present building constructed in 1936 for their Chandler Drug Company. After E. O. Chandler's death in 1967, the store was purchased by Russell Mitchell, a pharmacist who continues to operate the drug store under his name; various professionals and insurance companies have used the second floor offices. (CRB; HPC)

14. Commercial Building
NC 645 Washington Street
c. 1935?

The earliest known business on this location was a general store and post office operated by Daniel R. Ellington in the late 1880s. This frame store burned in 1892. In 1897 B. F. Ivie sold the property to Edgar H. Price who in turn sold it to Dr. S. L. Martin. Dr. Martin used a small brick building (construction date unknown) here as his office for a number of years. The 1915 Sanborn indicates that the building was vacant and in 1921 a cobbler's shop was located here. Thomas P. Adam's photography studio was located on the second story until the early 1930s. The building was torn down at an undetermined date, perhaps in the mid-1930s, and the present small one-story brick commercial building was erected. Various businesses and offices have occupied the building since then. The building has been considerably altered with a reworked store front and a replacement metal facade above. One metal panel is missing and it appears that the brick main elevation may be intact, if damaged, by the application of the replacement facade. (HPC)

15. DeHart Building
C 647 Washington Street
c. 1930

This handsome, two-story, seven-bay white stuccoed commercial building was constructed c. 1930 by N. V. DeHart in the Moderne style to house a five-and-dime store. It recalls the Art Deco style in its decorative bands of sawtoothing which appear above the second-story windows and in a bolder line at the top of a thick band of fluting above the store front. The upper story remains intact; the store front has been reworkd with large plate glass windows, probably not unlike the originals.

DeHart's five-and-dime store was subsequently operated by Grover Young until its closed in 1973; the upstairs offices were occupied primarily by insurance companies. The first floor was vacant until 1978 when Billy Vestal opened his Sports World here; in 1981 he bought the property; the sporting goods store continues in operation to the present.

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According to local historians, Archibald Heggie was an early owner of this lot. He built a two-story frame building in the late 1870s and operated a well-stocked general store here. He sold the store to Daniel R. Ellington in 1887. The store burned in 1892. Ellington apparently rebuilt, and a tailor shop was located here for many years. The building later housed a movie theater and confectionery store until it was torn down and replaced with the present building. (HPC; CRB; SM, 1930 and earlier maps for previous building)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1840 – 1940 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Leaksville Commercial Historic District encompasses one residential and fifteen commercial structures (twelve contributing, 4 non-contributing) located within a compact, architecturally and historically significant one-and-one-half block area of Eden, Rockingham County's commercial and industrial center and largest community, formed by 1967 consolidation of the adjoining towns of Leaksville, Spray and Draper. The structures in the district housed a wide variety of typical downtown businesses and services, and represent the largest and most intact concentration of architecturally significant late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial structures in Eden. Leaksville's central business district experienced a major period of growth and building activity following the arrival of the railroad in 1883. Continued growth through the turn of the century and into the mid-1930s reflected the success and expansion of the area's economic mainstay, textile manufacturing. The district is primarily composed of a good collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century brick buildings, many reflecting the influence of Queen Anne style architecture in their exuberant decorative brickwork that acted as a sort of advertisement meant to equate its bold stylishness with the success of the buildings' occupants. Other architecturally significant buildings in the district include the imposing four-story Neo-Classical Revival style Realty Building constructed in 1925; a striking pair of Art Moderne buildings constructed between 1930 and 1936; and a Colonial Revival style WPA-built 1939 post office. The Bullard-Ray House (NR) constructed c. 1840 and enlarged between 1908 and 1915, is the district's sole surviving residential structure. It is an evocative reminder of the mix of residential and commercial structures which often characterized nineteenth and early twentieth century North Carolina business districts.

Criteria Assessment:

A. Associated with the origins and subsequent growth of Leaksville's (now Eden) central business district during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The district's buildings reflect the commercial prosperity which accompanied the sustained success of the textile manufacturing industry located in the neighboring village of Spray (NR) & the 1883 arrival of the railroad in Leaksville and Spray.

C. The buildings within the Leaksville Commercial Historic District are good representative examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century brick commercial buildings. Several exhibit fine decorative brickwork reflecting the influence of the Queen Anne style. Other buildings in the district reflect the distinctive characteristics of the Neo-Classical Revival, Art Moderne and Colonial Revival styles. The Greek Revival style Bullard-Ray House (NR) is the district's only residential structure and is a reminder that domestic structures were often found in early commercial districts.

Criteria Exception G: The period of significance extends to 1940 in order to include one building, the U.S. Post Office, as a contributing structure. It is an architecturally significant landmark in the district, and was built by the Federal Works Administration 1939–1940.

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Leaksville was established in 1795 by John Leak and located on a 204-acre tract of land on a high bluff overlooking the Dan River a short distance west of its confluence with the Smith River. The new town was platted into forty-two lots, each 132-feet wide by 165-feet deep along six streets laid out in a grid: Water Street (no longer in existence) near the edge of the bluff overlooking the river and Washington and Jay streets parallel to Water and few hundred yards to the northwest, intersected by Patrick, Henry and Hamilton streets.¹ Leaksville's earliest business district was located on Water Street at Henry Street about one block south of Washington Street, the town's present commercial center.

Although Leak sold his first lot shortly after the town was laid out, by 1800 Leaksville was little more than a few frame and log buildings clustered near the river, including two taverns operated by Dabney Carr and Vincent Voss.² The town grew very slowly until the mid-1810s when rumors that Leaksville would be designated navigation head of the Dan River caused real estate prices to soar. Lots valued at ten to twenty dollars prior to 1800 rose to \$75 to \$100 each in the mid-1810s and peaked in 1818 when the price of one-half acre lots inflated from \$500 to \$1,500 within twelve months.³ This period of wild land speculation caused such rapid growth in the town that a branch of the North Carolina State Bank was opened in 1819.⁴ Shops and taverns of frame and log construction were steadily added to the cluster of buildings along Water Street and soon a few commercial buildings were appearing among the residences located along Henry and Washington streets.⁵ Fontaine, Gregory & Co., and Nathaniel W. Dandridge appear to have been the town's leading merchants of the period. The number of taverns in town reflected the importance of distilling as Rockingham County's single most productive industry in the early nineteenth century: James Barnett and John Menzies operated a tavern as did Phillip Rose who was granted a license for a "house of entertainment," and the Morehead family who received permission to sell liquor at their blacksmith shop. In 1813 James Barnett also constructed a dam, grist mill and 4,600-foot power canal on the east edge of Leaksville. This canal and the mill site would later prove to be pivotal elements in the development of the textile manufacturing industry, Eden's economic mainstay for the past 100 years.

Leaksville's early boom period ended abruptly when the Panic of 1819 hit the Dan River Valley, and much of the rest of the country, after commodities prices began falling as the war-induced European demand for American agricultural products slowed. Real estate prices in Leaksville plummeted and financial losses prompted many investors, including James Barnett, to leave the area. In a series of articles on life in early Leaksville written at the turn of this century, the Reverend Daniel E. Field recalled the financial collapse "that prostrated many of the best men in the country and crushed the prospects of the city."

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Property that recently was sought at thousands now lagged at hundreds; and in a few years was sold at auction for taxes by the sheriff. Many of the thousand dollar lots afterwards sold for a mere pittance. Many of the dwelling houses were vacated, and business houses deserted. Bats and owls became the sole occupants of one of the best hotels in the place, and some of the stores were turned into stables and hog-styes. The deserted city soon became a wreck of rotten wood, and was so infested with fleas on account of the houses becoming the tenements of swine, that the name of "Hog Town" was appropriately applied.⁶

Other accounts and records of the period suggest that Field was prone to exaggeration. Leaksville's rapid growth certainly came to a sharp halt, but the community did not suffer abject deterioration. Instead, Leaksville endured as a small market town that was served by a branch of the State Bank until at least 1821.⁷ Newcomers from Virginia and points east, particularly Scots, continued to settle in Leaksville and the surrounding vicinity throughout the 1820s. Into the 1830s, the business district gradually expanded with new stores such as those opened by James Kyle prior to 1825, John Motley Morehead and William A. Carrigan by 1830, and John Lawson by 1833.⁸ All except three of the structures erected in Leaksville during this boom period have been destroyed in the wake of later development. (The surviving structures, two houses and a detached kitchen, are located in the Central Leaksville Historic District, NR 1986). At the south end of town, all of the early frame commercial buildings were lost to deterioration or fire or were removed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to make room for industrial development close to the river and to new brick commercial buildings constructed along Washington Street.

In 1831 a nearly industrial settlement was founded which would have far-reaching effects on Leaksville. John Motley Morehead formed a partnership with William Barnett (James Barnett's cousin and business successor) to operate a small industrial complex which had grown up around the Barnett family's early grist mill on the Smith River just one mile northeast of Leaksville. This complex also included a sawmill, oil mill, carding mill, cotton gin, blacksmith shop and general store. Morehead purchased Barnett's share of the business and 1,000 acres of land in 1836. Morehead recognized the untapped potential of the canal and hired Massachusetts textile mechanic John Hall Bullard to construct and manage a cotton mill located next to the grist mill. Known variously as Leaksville Factory and Morehead's Mill, the mill began operation in 1840 as Rockingham County's only textile factory.⁹ This mill was the first phase of an industrial hub that eventually evolved under Morehead's successors, J. Turner Morehead, B. Frank Mebane and Marshall Field and Co., into one of the foremost textile manufacturing centers in the southeast.

The only residential structure remaining in the Leaksville Commercial Historic District is the Bullard-Ray House (NR, #8) at 650 Washington Street. John Hall Bullard constructed the simple Greek Revival style two-story hip-roofed house soon after he moved to Leaksville in 1839. After Bullard's death in 1870, his son-in-law and daughter, James B. and Annie Ray, owned and occupied the house. Their son, John

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Bullard Ray, Leaksville's most prominent physician and the town's leading citizen occupied the house. Ray and his wife renovated the house between 1908 and 1915, enlarging it and adding Colonial Revival style details. Dr. Ray's niece, Jean Dunn Harrington, one of the founders of the Eden Historical Society and the current chairman of the Eden Historic Properties Commission, frequently hosts historic preservation-related meetings and social events at the house and in the large, landscaped garden at its rear. The presence of this house in the Washington Street commercial district is a vivid reminder of a time when the business district was not so clearly defined and a number of residences were interspersed with commercial structures. This type of mixed use is typical of many small North Carolina towns during the eighteenth, nineteenth and well into the twentieth centuries. In spite of later development pressures, a number of the state's commercial districts still retain at least one early residence. (For examples in piedmont North Carolina, see National Register nomination forms for the Graham Historic District, Roxboro Commercial Historic District, Carrboro Commercial Historic District, and Mt. Airy Historic District.)

By the 1840s Leaksville's economy was improving and renewal began to spread to the commercial center of the town. In 1840, the town had three stores, a wagon shop, a blacksmith shop, a tailor shop and two taverns. The taverns were supplied by the eight stills operating within a two-and-one-half mile radius of Leaksville—an area occupied by fewer than 300 people. About this time some of the long vacant commercial buildings were moved from Water Street to Henry Street and Washington Street, the new focus of the central business district.¹⁰ By 1860, the number of merchants in Leaksville had grown considerably. One of the most successful businessmen was John Hall Bullard, who had left Morehead's Mill in the early 1840s to open a general merchandise store on Washington Street. Bullard was considered a merchandising pioneer for introducing high quality goods that he purchased in Boston and other eastern cities. His success, attributed to quick sales and smaller profits, forced a general reduction of prices and soon spread to the other merchants in what Daniel E. Field later called the "Bullard boom."¹¹

Advertisements printed in 1860 and 1861 in the Herald, Leaksville's first newspaper, give a good indication of the town's commercial activity just prior to the Civil War. General merchants in addition to Bullard included his son-in-law James B. Ray, M. J. Hampton, Pryor Reynolds, and Jones W. Burton, a prominent land owner and magistrate and postmaster from 1842 to 1860. Local craftsmen included cabinetmaker James R. Stephens, harness maker Peter D. Wade, shoemaker J. L. Callahan, and T. H. Morgan who produced ambrotype portraits.¹² Lawyers Robert H. Ward and Chalmers Glenn and physicians Anthony B. Johns and John W. May represented the professions.¹³ There was a hotel on Henry Street, managed by Benton Field and later by William R. Strong, and a warehouse on Water Street constructed in 1841 by John Motley Morehead and William A. Carrigan.¹⁴

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Because Union troops did not invade Rockingham County during the Civil War, the war's chief impact was the economic deprivation experienced by most of the population. Throughout Leaksville and the surrounding area there were commodities shortages, high taxes and inflation. The town's merchants were particularly hard hit. They had extended credit to their customers and many merchants were in debt themselves since they bought their goods on credit from Northern suppliers. However, compared with the rest of North Carolina, economic recovery after the war was relatively swift in the Leaksville area, thanks to the uninterrupted vigor of the Leaksville Factory which ran throughout the war manufacturing cotton and woolen cloth for the Confederacy.

After John Motley Morehead's death in 1866, his son, Major James Turner Morehead assumed leadership of the family business interests. A former Confederate cavalry officer, Major Morehead was in the forefront of North Carolina's post-war economic recovery as he expanded his family's mills, financed improved river navigation, built railroads, established power plants and promoted industrial research throughout the rest of the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s.¹⁵ Described as "an apostle of industrial development," Major Morehead became a leading figure in the New South where "the gospel of salvation through manufacturing" was preached to a receptive populace.¹⁶

After several attempts (usually led by J. Turner Morehead) to build a rail line to Leaksville had failed, finally in 1881 the Danville, Mocksville and Southwestern Railroad obtained a charter in North Carolina and completed a narrow gauge line from Danville, Virginia to Leaksville in December, 1883. The rail line became a part of the Southern system in 1894; in 1901 a third rail was laid to accommodate standard-gauge cars.

The advent of the railroad fueled an economic renaissance in Leaksville. The population, which remained fairly constant at about 300 until the arrival of the railroad, almost tripled during the next decade, reflecting a surge in the local economy.¹⁷ The textile industry remained important and tobacco manufacturing and warehousing were the most important of a spate of new businesses. Also during this period, Leaksville's mercantile establishments, artisans and manufacturing houses thrived and multiplied.

In his 1884 description of Leaksville, Major Morehead wrote:

Five stores, in which all articles of general merchandise are sold, two others that sell groceries exclusively, and a millinery establishment, are among its business houses. . . . In addition, mechanics of various trades, such as builders, blacksmiths, wagon and buggy makers, harness makers, boot and shoe makers, a jeweler, a tinsmith, and a tailor abound in Leaksville.¹⁸

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According to Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for 1884, there were a total of eleven general merchandise stores in Leaksville. Among the town's well known businesses of the late 1880s and 1890s were Ivie Brothers (#3), general merchandise; D. R. Ellington's grocery (destroyed, see #15); Carter and King and Carter & Moir (#2), both hardware and fertilizer stores; Henry Moir's furniture store; Miss Mollie Dyer and Mrs. A. M. Ray's millinery shops; E. F. Seay's confectionary; J. D. Hudson's tinsmithy, and H. J. Griffin's boot and shoemaking shop.¹⁹ Daniel E. Field turned from his foundry and furniture making business on Matrimony Creek to the sale of dry goods when he opened a shop with his brother Thomas on Washington Street (#2) in the early 1880s.²⁰

Increased commercial activity prompted the creation of a local bank, the first in Leaksville since the demise of the State Bank branch several decades earlier. In 1889, tobacconist Doctor Franklin King diversified his local business interests when he and W. R. Walker founded Leaksville's first locally owned bank, the Bank of Leaksville. (#2). Residents of both Leaksville and Spray held stock in the bank and King served as its president until 1922, the year of his death, when the institution was reorganized as Leaksville Bank and Trust Company.²¹ For almost four decades, King remained one of Leaksville's leading businessmen, investing heavily in real estate and other ventures including furniture and mercantile companies in addition to tobacco warehousing and manufacturing.

Downtown Leaksville's 1880s revitalization remains vividly represented today in its commercial architecture. The builders of Leaksville's new commercial enterprises followed the general trend for urban construction at the time and produced a collection of durable brick buildings ornamented with handsome Queen Anne style decorative corbelled brickwork. The stylish buildings were physical advertisements that seemed to declare "a successful merchant is located here." Although many of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings have been altered, downtown Leaksville retains several of its most elaborate structures intact above the ground level storefronts. Three of these buildings standing in a row on the east side of Washington Street--the Leaksville Mercantile Building, (#1) Carter-Moir Hardware and Smith-Lane Store (#2), and the Fagg-King Building (#3)--have been refurbished in recent years with decorative multi-color paint schemes. The commercial building (#6), a few doors to the south, was restored in 1985; a false facade was removed revealing the original intact decorative brickwork. These buildings display such features as dentilled lintels, applied pilasters, corbelled pendants, and patterned brickwork cornices. The three-unit building at 628-32 Washington Street (#3) also is the only downtown structure to retain a cast iron store front, marked by fluted pilasters. The building known as the Roberts Cafe at 656 Washington Street (#9) is locally unique due to the retention of a bracketed frame cornice above the shop front.

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It is generally believed that most of downtown Leaksville's early brick buildings were constructed for individual merchants by contractor J. M. Hopper who owned a brickyard on the west bank of the Dan River. He built many of the houses, commercial buildings, factories, schools, and churches throughout Rockingham and surrounding counties from the late 1880s to the 1930s, Hopper is recognized today as the area's pioneer builder. J. M. Hopper Construction Co. grew out of a business that his father, R. M. Hopper, began with Peter Kemp in 1858 and continued in operation under his son, the prolific local architect James W. Hopper, until 1961.²²

The three buildings (#s 1, 2, 9) which survive from the post-1883 railroad boom period are located on the east side of Washington Street between Bridge and Henry streets. On the west side of Washington Street between Monroe and Henry streets (present location of #s 12-15), the growth began earlier than the arrival of the railroad. There were seven businesses doing well there when "the most destructive fire Leaksville had ever had" occurred on December 14, 1892. On December 16, 1892 the Reidsville Weekly Review reported the story:

The flames started from a stove pipe in the upper room of Miss J. C. Ellington's Racquet Store and quickly destroyed that building and its contents. The flames fanned by a brisk breeze, soon spread to other buildings and in an incredible short space of time the entire block was laid in ashes. The establishments burned were G. D. and B. H. Dyer's Tobacco Factory, Peter Wade's harness shop and D. R. Ellington's Grocery Store. In the last named store was the post office and a considerable quantity of mail matter, stamps, etc. were destroyed.

During the period of mill expansion in Spray at the turn of the twentieth century (see Spray Industrial Historic District National Register nomination for information on the various mills), the population of Leaksville grew rapidly rising from 3,965 in 1890, to 5,422 in 1900 and to 13,811 in 1920. Commerce was thriving and six of the district's structures (#s 3, 4, 4a, 5, 6, 7) date from the first decade of this century. Brick remained the preferred construction material for these new buildings. Brick was sturdy, durable, relatively maintenance free and best of all, fire resistant. In Leaksville, as well as other North Carolina towns, brick buildings represented permanence and stability and were emblems of urban progress. All across the urbanizing state at the turn of the century, many of the old frame stores on "Main Street" were torn down and whole blocks of brick buildings rose in their place.

The types of businesses and services located at various times in the Leaksville Commercial Historic District during the first decades of this century were typical of those found in many small North Carolina towns. There were general merchandise stores (#s 1, 2, 3), department stores/dry goods (#s 3, 5, 6), hardware stores (#s 2, 3, 4) five-and-dime stores (#s 3, 10, 15), banks (#s 2, 7), the post office (#11), doctors' and dentists' offices (#s 10, 14), an undertaker (#13), restaurants/cafes (#s 7, 9), tailor shops (#s 3, 15), drug store (#13), grocery stores (#s 1, 2, 3, 4), furniture store (#13), hotels (#s 6, 10) and an automobile garage (#9).

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New businesses which operated in the Leaksville Commercial Historic District around 1920 included Carter-Jones Hardware (#13) and Roberts Cafe (#9). The district's most important architectural development between the world wars was the construction in 1924 to 1925 of the four-story Neo-classical Revival style brick Realty Building (#10) (later known as the John B. Ray Building) which had shops on the first floor, offices on the second and third, and the Central Hotel on the fourth. Two other striking additions to the district's streetscape were constructed in the 1930s. These are the Art Moderne/Deco buildings at 641 and 647 Washington Street housing Chandler (now Mitchell) Drug Company (#13) and DeHart's Five and Dime (#15), respectively. The last architecturally significant building constructed in the district was the U.S. Post Office (#11) built by the Federal Works Administrations in 1939-1940. The Colonial Revival style building was built on the site of a frame tobacco warehouse, later adapted as the King Furniture Company building. The post office building is typical of many constructed during the Depression with government funding.

Eden is a town rich in buildings which reflect its industrial, residential and commercial growth. The Leaksville Commercial Historic District retains a good representative group of late nineteenth and early twentieth century brick commercial buildings. Despite the construction of outlying shopping malls, the district remains a lively town commercial center with some businesses operating at the same location for over a half a century. The district's preserved commercial buildings and those which have been recently restored, indicate Eden's commitment to preserve these tangible links with its past and symbols of the community's entrepreneurial heritage. The Eden Historic Properties Commission plays an active role in preservation education in the town. The Commission oversaw the completion of a city-wide survey and inventory of historic resources in 1984, published the inventory report in 1986, and initiated and funded the preparation of four National Register of Historic Places historic district nominations in 1985-1986.

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FOOTNOTES

Note: The information contained in Item 8 of this nomination was excerpted and adapted from Claudia Roberts Brown, "Eden--A Tale of Three Cities," an inventory report prepared in 1985 for the Eden Historic Properties Commission (published by the Commission in 1986 as A Tale of Three Cities, Eden's Heritage: A Pictorial Survey).

¹Charles D. Rodenbaugh, editor, The Heritage of Rockingham County, North Carolina, 1983 (Winston-Salem: Rockingham Historical Society, Inc. in cooperation with Hunter Publishing Co., 1983), p. 117; and "Old Map of Leaksville, N.C." copied by James W. Hopper in 1916, reproduced on p. 4 of Lindley S. Butler, Rockingham County: A Brief History (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1982).

²Lindley S. Butler, Our Proud Heritage: A Pictorial History of Rockingham County, N.C. (Bassett, Va.: Bassett Printing Co., 1971), p. 11.

³Butler, Rockingham County, p. 31.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Butler, Our Proud Heritage, pp. 13 and 31; Rodenbaugh, p. 18.

⁶Daniel E. Field, "Leaksville of 'Ye Olden Times'", with notes by Robert W. Carter, Jr., The Journal of Rockingham County History and Genealogy, vol. VIII, No. 1, June 1983, p. 4.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Ibid., footnote 30 on p. 26.

⁹Ibid., p. 7; and Rodenbaugh, p. 75.

¹⁰Field, p. 5.

¹¹Field, p. 28.

¹²Ibid.

¹³Butler, Our Proud Heritage, p. 16.

¹⁴Daisy King Barker, "Rockingham County's Oldest Man is Mr. John P. Vernon, Centenarian of 103 Years," Leaksville Daily News, September 12, 1925; and Butler, Our Proud Heritage, pp. 6-7.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 3 acres

Quadrangle name Southwest Eden

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References

A

17	6	1	0	7	0	0	4	0	3	8	8	4	0
Zone	Easting			Northing									

B

Zone	Easting			Northing									

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia S. Dickinson, Consultant

organization

date January 30, 1987

street & number Rt. 2, Box 1034

telephone (919) 732-5439

city or town Hillsborough

state North Carolina 27278

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

William S. King

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date April 9, 1987

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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¹⁵Butler, Rockingham County, p. 62; and Rodenbaugh, p. 20.

¹⁶Hugh T. Lefler and Albert R. Newsome, The Heritage of a Southern State: North Carolina (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1954), p. 467; Butler, Rockingham County, p. 62; Rodenbaugh, p. 20.

¹⁷Butler, Rockingham County, p. 58.

¹⁸J. Turner Morehead, "Sketch of the County of Rockingham, North Carolina," a reprint of a private job printing by The Gazette, in The Journal of Rockingham County History and Genealogy, vol. VI, No. 1, June, 1981, p. 6.

¹⁹Levi Branson, North Carolina Business Directory, 1884 and 1890.

²⁰Field, "Leaksville of 'Ye Olden Times'", p. 3; and Rodenbaugh, p. 118.

²¹Allie Hopper Ivie, "Historical Sketch of Leaksville Bank and Trust Co., Leaksville, N.C." Tarheel Banker, vol. XX, July 1941, pp. 15-16 and 31. Doctor Franklin King's residence, located nearby on Bridge Street, is listed in the National Register. The 1875 house is the largest and most architecturally significant late Victorian residence remaining in Eden.

²²Emerson Manuel, "Firm Ends 103 Years in Building Field," Leaksville Daily News, October 17, 1961.

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet

Geographical Data

Item number 10

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The boundaries of the Leaksville Commercial Historic District have been drawn to include all those properties which contribute historically and/or architecturally to the almost exclusively commercial district. The district includes a portion of the east and west sides of the 600 block of Washington Street, and the U.S. Post Office which fronts onto Monroe Street near its intersection with Washington Street. The addresses of the buildings included within the district are as follows: on Washington Street, numbers 622, 624, 625, 628-632, 634-636, 638, 639, 640, 641, 645, 646, 647, 650, 656; on Monroe Street, number 634.

For exact boundaries, refer to the enclosed district map drawn from Eden base tax maps, drawn at a scale of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch = 200 feet.

LEAKSVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT EDEN, N.C.

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

— DISTRICT BOUNDARY <A PHOTOS
BUILDINGS

C CONTRIBUTING NC NON-CONTRIBUTING

NUMBERS KEYED TO INVENTORY LIST



